

REMARKS

Specification Amendments

Applicants have amended the specification in order to place the specification in better form.

Claim Amendments

Applicants have amended the claims in order to place the claims in better form. The claim amendments are not being made in response to any statutory requirement for patentability, and have not been narrowed in scope. Instead, the claims have been amended merely to recite the subject matter therein more clearly.

Election Requirement

The Examiner has set forth an Election of Species Requirement as follows:

<u>Species</u>	<u>Figure(s)</u>
1	3-6
2	7
3	8
4	9-11
5	12-14

In order to comply with the Examiner's Election of Species Requirement, Applicants provisionally elect Species 1, Figures 3-6 (along with generic Figure 2),

readable on claims 1-7, for prosecution in the present application. Applicants reserve the right to file a Divisional application directed to the non-elected claims at a later date, if so desired.

This requirement for election of species is respectfully traversed for the reasons set forth below.

As set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.146, a reasonable number of species are permitted in a single application. The present application contains a reasonable number of species. Further, examination of all of the species together in one application would not place an undue burden on the Examiner, since the search areas would be the same. It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's Election of Species Requirement is improper in view of the fact that a reasonable number of species are set forth in the present application.

Accordingly, in view of the above remarks, reconsideration of the requirement for election of species, and an action on all of the claims in the application, are respectfully requested.

Favorable action on the present application is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (703) 205-8000, in the Washington, D.C. area.

Amendment and Election of Species filed January 5, 2006
Response to Restriction Requirement of December 5, 2005

Appln. No.: 10/753,498

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Date: January 5, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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